

Claim 2 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said back surface of said cover includes said RF shielding material. -

Claim 3 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 2, wherein at least a portion of said front surface includes said RF shielding material. -

Claim 5 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 1, including at least one adhesive strip located on said front surface. -

Claim 6 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 1, including means for closing said open end of said cover. -

Claim 7 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said closing means comprises a tab extending from said front surface and means for securing said tab to said back surface. -

Claim 8 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said closing means is selected from the group

consisting of adhesive, mating fasteners and mating hook and loop strips. -

Claim 9 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said tab includes an opening located therein. -

Claim 11 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 7, including perforations located along said tab. -

Claim 12 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said closing means comprises a tab extending from said back surface and means for securing said tab to said front surface. -

Claim 13 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said closing means comprises a first tab extending from said front surface, a second tab extending from said back surface, and means for securing said first tab to said second tab. -

Claim 14 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said cover is of waterproof and bacterial resistant material. -

Claim 15 has been amended to read:

- An apparatus for enclosing a treatment applicator comprising a cover having a front surface, a back surface, at least one open end, and at least one strip of RF shielding material removably connected to said cover. -

Claim 16 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said front surface is made of a non-RF shielding material, said at least one strip overlying said front surface, and said at least one strip comprising a perforated strip. -

Claim 17 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said at least one strip is removably adhered to said front surface. -

Claim 18 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said at least one strip comprises multiple strips, each of said multiple strips being adhered to the front surface of said cover and separably removable from said cover. -

Claim 19 has been amended to read:

- An electromagnetic treatment apparatus comprising an RF generating system, a cover, and an applicator connected to said RF generating system and enclosed within said cover, said

cover comprising RF shielding material adapted to introduce capacitance to circuitry of said applicator. -

Claim 20 has been amended to read:

- Apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said applicator only enables said RF generating system when said applicator is located within said cover and when the capacitance of said applicator in combination with the capacitive effect of said cover is within a predetermined range. -

ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIMS:

21. A method for irradiating tissue with RF energy from a treatment applicator connected through a cord to a power generator, said method comprising the steps of:

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a) placing the treatment applicator within a disposable cover through an opening of the cover to protect the treatment applicator from contamination and to protect a technician from RF radiation emitted from the treatment applicator;

b) closing the opening of the cover to enclose the treatment applicator therewithin;

c) transmitting RF energy from the treatment applicator through an area of the cover adjacent the tissue to be treated; and

d) inhibiting transmission of RF energy through the remaining area of the cover.

22. The method as set forth in claim 21 wherein the cover includes a top side and a bottom side and wherein said step of transmitting is adapted to be carried out through the bottom

side.

23. The method as set forth in claim 21 wherein the cover includes a top side and a bottom side and wherein said step of inhibiting is adapted to be carried out through the top side.

24. The method as set forth in claim 23 wherein said step of transmitting is adapted to be carried out through the bottom side.

25. The method as set forth in claim 21 including the steps of:

- a) removing the treatment applicator from within the cover; and
- b) placing the cover into a disposal receptacle after said step of removing is carried out.

26. The method as set forth in claim 21 wherein the cover includes a top side and a bottom side and including the step of detachably attaching an edge of the top side forming a part of the opening with an edge of the bottom side forming a part of the opening to enclose the treatment applicator within the cover.

27. The method as set forth in claim 26 including the step of encircling the cord extending from the treatment applicator through the opening with material of the cover.

28. A cover for enclosing an RF radiating applicator adapted to provide treatment to

living tissue, said cover comprising in combination:

a) a top side of said cover;

b) a bottom side of said cover;

c) said top side in combination with said bottom side defining an opening for inserting and removing said applicator;

d) closure means for closing said opening to enclose said applicator within said cover;

e) an area of said bottom side being adapted to transmit RF energy therethrough to adjacent tissue during a treatment procedure; and

f) an area of said top side being adapted to prevent transmission of RF energy therethrough during a treatment procedure.

29. A cover as set forth in claim 28 wherein said area of said top side comprises RF shielding material.

30. A cover as set forth in claim 29 wherein said RF shielding material comprises metallized polyethylene.

31. A cover as set forth in claim 29 wherein at least a part of said closure means includes RF shielding material adapted to prevent transmission of RF energy through said closed opening.